

Commission Quarterly

Published by Friends of the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission, Lincoln, Nebraska

January 2004

Winter Issue

Local Artist Donates Rare Weave for LLWC Event

Well-known local artist, Wendy Weiss, created a remarkable piece of hand woven art designed to merge a diverse group of women's voice into one voice.

“Songs from Our Mothers” is the title of the weaving contributed to the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission for its 28th annual event, *Weaving Women's Voices*, in recognition of International Women's Day held at the Cornhusker Hotel on Friday, March 5, 2004. The weaving will be the grand raffle prize during the event and tickets cost \$1 each.

“I used a selection of the song lyrics that the Commission provided for the Weaving Women's Voices project. The commission selected a range of text that is truly inspirational,” said Weiss, director of the Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery and Associate Professor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

“I tried to select a medley of thoughts for the weaving, from a combination of cultures. I really enjoyed making the weaving, which

is closely connected to the current work I am doing in the studio.”

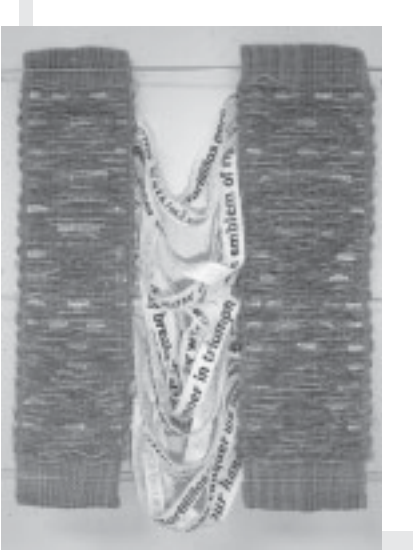
Weiss's next show reflects a very large component that is related to the LLWC weaving and will be exhibited in Dayton, Ohio next April.

“I am making the new animated textile and sound installation called, “A Traveler's Field,” in collaboration with my husband, Jay Kreimer.”

The person who wins the raffle will receive a hand dyed weaving with screen-printed text woven into the fabric itself. The text actually connects the two panels. Thin brass rods support the weaving and give it stability. The fibers used include silk/wool, linen, cotton, nylon monofilament and wire.

The colors are earth tones, with soft yellows and oranges on a brown background. The text is black ink printed on white raw silk. The weaving measures 11" high by 12" wide, so it can easily hang in any environment. Below are some of the sentiments written in the weaving:

- “We will weave a world web to Entangle the Powers, That bury our children.”
 - “And ever the Equal Rights Banner shall wave, O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.”
 - “Power will not change the nature of women; women will change the nature of power,” as quoted by Sherron Watkins, Enron whistleblower.
 - “Del tambeereh, bohl ghambeereh, daradeh e' del, bokhoreh beh gheal.”
 - “Tortillitas por mama, tortillitas por papa, tortillitas para ti, tortillitas para mi.”
- The awards luncheon pays tribute to the advancement of women's equality through honoring four outstanding award recipients for their work in improving the quality of life for women in the community.
- The keynote speaker is Mayor Coleen J. Seng. Luncheon tickets can be purchased for \$20 at the Women's Commission office, requested to be mailed or by completing the RSVP order form located on page four of this issue.



Weaving Women's Voices creates a rare, one-of-a-kind fabric art piece that will be raffled at the 28th annual event, held in March.

Commission Releases Report Revealing Results of Gender Inequities on Local Boards

Unless and until women are active participants in decision making processes and visible in policy-making circles, little will change. As 51% of the population of Lincoln and Lancaster County, women deserve a “place at the table” where decisions are being made that impact their lives and the lives of their families.

There is something amiss when Nebraska ranks *second in the nation for the percentage of mothers with children who are in the workforce, and yet, *ranks 50th in the nation for the percentage of women who are in managerial and professional occupations.

As a result of strategic planning in leadership opportunities, the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission (LLWC) has

embarked on a Leadership and Public Policy goal - to increase the number of women on decision-making boards at all levels.

Scheduled to be released in late January, the LLWC report, *A Place at the Table*, reveals gender inequities on specific nonprofit and for profit local boards, which will be made available upon request at no cost.

Starting in January, LLWC will implement a new project called the *Women's Leadership Board Recruitment* program. By completing an enrollment form, female candidates will be matched with inquiries from boards, commissions, committees and task forces seeking to fill open seats. This will enable those organizations to reach gender equity

within its member composition while increasing the number of local female participants.

“If women are to become leaders, they require a place from which to start,” said Bonnie Coffey, director. “We are excited to be able to offer this type of program to women living in Lincoln and Lancaster County.”

LLWC will work closely with area businesses and organizations to develop “a place at the table” for women, increase women's participation in the political process and to provide women's leadership opportunities.

*Institute for Women's Policy Research, Washington, DC, "The Status of Women in Nebraska, 2002: Highlights."

Female MBAs: Why Aren't There More at the Table?

(MBA.COM) - Despite the high-profile success of many women with MBAs, there are still fewer women in graduate business programs than in medical or law school. Discussion with admissions staff at many schools reveals that women sometimes have misconceptions about the MBA degree and what it can do for them and their careers.

Myth: I am not interested in working for a big company, so getting an MBA would probably not help me.

Fact: An MBA can help you to be successful in almost any organization.

Although there are many successful executives in large corporations who have MBAs, there are also MBAs working in nonprofits, health care organizations, higher education, arts management, the military, and government (for example, President of the United States George W. Bush has an MBA). Some people get MBAs in order to be able to start their own businesses or manage a small family business. The combination of basic business skills combined with a particular area of focus

creates many options for people with the degree.

Myth: All business schools are alike when it comes to women.

Fact: There are big differences among schools when it comes to attracting and supporting women on campus.

Some schools are really doing a lot to make women feel welcome in their MBA programs. When researching particular schools, take a look at the published percentages of women in the class and the number and variety of women's organizations on campus. How many women are on the faculty? Look at the speakers that came to the school last year and ask how many women were asked to speak at the school. You will find that there are differences among schools.

Myth: You have to be really strong in math to do well in an MBA program.

Fact: The MBA curriculum offers a balance of different kinds of courses.

There is no doubt that an MBA program teaches you how to think analytically.

Courses such as accounting, finance, operations management, and even marketing use numbers and analytical concepts to help you learn how to make better business decisions. But you do not have to be an engineer to master these concepts. In fact, lots of liberal arts graduates do just fine in MBA programs.

If you feel you need to brush up on your mathematical skills, you can take some courses before you apply or before you enroll. Some MBA students say that taking classes in some of the basics at a local community college before they enrolled increased their confidence in their first year of school. If a school to which you have applied has concerns about your analytical skills, they may ask you to do some additional preparation.

Myth: Business schools and their students are viciously competitive.

Fact: Every school has a different culture and these vary significantly.

MBA, Continued on page 4



KUDOS

Congratulations to LLWC Commissioner and Southeast High School educator, Kathleen “Kathie” Uhrmacher for being selected as January's County/City Volunteer of the Month for her participation in program and events sponsored by LLWC.



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Celebrate February
Black History Month

Patricia Roberts Harris
1924-1985

Patricia R. Harris was the first black woman to serve in a president's cabinet and the first to serve as secretary of two cabinet posts. In 1977, President Jimmy Carter appointed Harris as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. In 1979, she was appointed as Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Harris earned a law degree with honors from George Washington University in 1960, and was then admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court. In 1961, she became associate dean of students at Howard University School of Law. In 1963, she was given full professorship and in 1969 became the dean of the law school.

Celebrate March
Women's History Month

Martha Washington is the only woman whose portrait has appeared on a U.S. currency note. It appeared on the face of the \$1 Silver Certificate of 1886 and 1891, and the back of the \$1 Silver Certificate of 1896.

Calendar of Events

- January**
01: New Year's Day
OFFICE CLOSED
14: Regular commission meeting
5:45 p.m.
19: Martin Luther King Day,
OFFICE CLOSED
- February**
11: Regular commission meeting
5:45 p.m.
- March**
05: 28th LLWC annual event
Weaving Women's Voices
11-1 p.m., Cornhusker Hotel
10: Regular commission meeting
5:45 p.m.

February's taping of **WomenTalk** will focus on "Here's To Your Health: How to be Better Healthcare Consumers," with Helen Fagan, BryanLGH Medical Center, and Cecelia Creighton, People's Health Center.



SURFING THE WEB AGAIN?
CLICK HERE!

www.ci.lincoln.ne.us/city/mayor/women/

Women's Health & Safety
Passage of Federal Bill Lacks Good Medicine for Poor Women

Research shows that beginning in mid-life, many women develop one or more chronic illnesses for which prescription drugs are often the preferred treatment, according to a Kaiser Health Foundation report in 1999. For the majority of women who live on modest incomes, spending a monthly pension allotment on prescription drugs creates significant hardships. Even for those middle-class women who have achieved a measure of financial security from pensions, savings, and Social Security, high drug costs can quickly undermine their retirement income and push toward bankruptcy.

The fact that a woman outlives her spouse by an average of six years and her life expectancy is nearly 80 years places her at a greater risk for chronic illness. According to one study, 2.6 million women spent more than \$1,200 a year on medications. This is bitter medicine when living on minimal Social Security or pension benefits that fall below poverty levels. In 2002, the average income for a woman during her retirement years is \$15,615 compared with \$29,171 for men.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, prescription drug prices increased by 256% between 1980 and 1998. Yet the Consumer Price Index, on which Social Security cost-of-living adjustments are based, rose 98% during the same time period. A prescription drug plan that targets only low-income beneficiaries with incomes up to 150% of poverty would exclude most

women. Women have smaller incomes in retirement years because of the amount of time spent in the labor force, the pay inequities and the employers that failed to offer benefits. The average woman's income from Social Security alone in 1997 was \$7,596, compared to \$10,217 for men.

With the passage of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, it will cut prescription drug cost 25% to 50% and make the local pharmacy more competitive with Canadian pharmacies. Proponents say it will provide additional coverage to low-income individuals and those who currently have no prescription drug coverage. However, the new law has a number of shortcomings, say opponents. The "low-income" coverage still leaves too many people out in the cold who can't afford to buy needed prescription drugs and some of those currently covered by Medicaid will pay more for their prescription drugs.

No Guarantee. Analysts predict that costs will go up for those seniors leaving traditional Medicare in order to get a slightly more generous drug benefit. They note that there will be no guarantee of coverage as there is in the government-run Medicare; private insurers can raise premiums and deductibles, while reducing coverage and dropping patients. At the same time, seniors remaining in the traditional Medicare program will face a continued spiraling of drug costs and higher premiums,

followed by a predictable collapse of the program because of onerous spending caps and by the fact that this bill prohibits the government from negotiating with drug companies for lower prices.

The coverage gap, often referred to as the donut hole, is too big. It creates unusual circumstances in which persons with \$500 per month in drug costs will pay a larger portion of that cost out-of-pocket than someone with \$200 per month in drug costs. While critics of the bill have chosen to ignore most of the price control measures, those measures can be strengthened. Before enactment of this law, persons who did not have prescription drug coverage were the primary group interested in prescription drug price control. Now, it is in the interest of everyone to control the price of prescription drugs.

What is the core problem? The plan transfers the emphasis from government-guaranteed patient care to managed care plans (HMOs, PPOs), whose bottom line is a healthy profit margin, not the health and welfare of our over-65 population. In leaving traditional Medicare, seniors will be on their own in trying to figure out which managed care program is best and most affordable, with costs and coverage changing from year to year. Naturally, companies will try to maximize their earnings and seniors will be responsible for paying for ever-increasing costs with shrinking vouchers.

Bill Good Lacks Medicine, cont. on page 4

Use Caution When Reading E-Mail Messages That Urge Caution

(Editor's Note: Spam or not, this email directed toward women has been landing in computer mail boxes across the nation.)

"Lauren was 19 years old and in college. This story takes place over the Holiday break. It was about 1 p.m. in the afternoon, and Lauren was driving to visit a friend. An unmarked police car pulled up behind her with lights flashing. Lauren's parents have four children (high school and college age) and have always told them never to pull over for an unmarked car on the side of the road, but rather wait until they get to a gas station. Lauren followed her parents advice and promptly called # 77 on her cell phone to tell the police dispatcher that she would not pull over right away. She proceeded to tell the dispatcher that there was an unmarked police car with a flashing red light on the rooftop behind her. The dispatcher checked to see if there were any police cars where she was located, but there weren't. He told her to keep driving, remain calm and back up was on the way. Within minutes, officers had surrounded both vehicles. One officer went to her side while the others surrounded the car behind her. They pulled the driver from the car and tackled him to the ground, he was a convicted rapist and wanted for other crimes. Never pull over for an unmarked car. Apparently police have to respect your right to keep going to a "safe" place. You obviously need to make some signals that you acknowledge them (i.e. put on your hazard lights) or call # 77 as Lauren did. Too bad the cell phone companies don't give you this little bit of wonderful information. So now it's your turn to let your friends know about # 77. Send this to every woman you know, it may save their life. Men, please send this to your women friends."

Truth or Fiction?

Great story, but is it true?
Great advice, but is it the best and is it legal with the police department?
Read your "warning message" emails with

great warning.

Lincoln Police Department's media relations specialist, Off. Kacky Finnell, said that according to Julie Righter, 911 supervisor, most cell phones do have some sort of short cut or "gimmick" that can dial the emergency center. If people are interested in using it, they need to call their cell phone provider to determine the code.

However, Righter stresses that it makes more sense to dial 911 in an emergency and know for sure that help is on the way.

The biggest myth law enforcement personnel face daily is the false notion that emergency personnel can "track" the victim's location through cell phone frequencies or radio waves. This simply is false. Since cell phones aren't registered like "land lines" or home phones, no caller ID information is available. Victims must tell authorities their whereabouts or the location of the intended crime. This especially holds true for cell phones given out for domestic violence victims as there is no tracking system available.

Sgt. Mike Siefkes states a standard marked police car is normally called to the scene for several safety reasons if an officer in an unmarked car needs to pull over the driver. However, LPD's policy does allow for individuals, who have no criminal intent or conduct, to drive to a safe area with good lighting before stopping the car.

From Friends

Dear Friends,
This has been a busy Fall for the Friends of the Commission. We have had conversations with Bonnie and our two newest members of the Friends Executive Committee, Roberta Stick and Nancy Intermill, on a number of issues of importance to both the LLWC and Friends. Paramount among them is to make sure that we have two strong and vital organizations and that they are both doing good works for the entire community of women. We realize there are a few people who would like to cut funding for the Commission. Friends will work very hard along with the Commissioners to make sure that doesn't happen. Our work enhances the lives of all women in our community by allowing all women to have the same information and access to the same resources. We promote a great service on a VERY limited budget! We are all proud of the LLWC's work! Friends will be working closely with the Commissioners, supporting them in projects we both agree are important to the community. Most recently the Friends have pledged \$3,000 to the LLWC's Health Project. This project will inform refugee and immigrant women of their rights as they visit with their doctors and other health professional. We are hoping web access to the Health Projects materials can be provided for women who can use computers. Brochures will be available and they will be printed in several different languages. Cassettes will be made available for women who have not yet learned to read. This will afford them the same information as the other women. This is an exciting project that will have a great impact in women's lives. I have had the opportunity to take a peek at Wendy Weiss's weaving for the International Women's Day celebrations. It is a very innovative and exciting work. I'm sure you will agree when you see it. Please plan to attend the event and have a look for yourself. Tickets will be available soon. Save the date! Friday, March 5, 2004. Stay healthy and enjoy the holidays.
Karen Dienstbier, President Friends of the Commission

LLWC President's Letter

By Nancy Intermill



Maybe it is the mild fall that we're having, but it barely feels like the summer has left us, and now it's time for end of the year holidays and an upcoming new year. So "Cheers!" to all of you in the celebration of your various events and traditions.

This year I have spent much of my energy around personal transition, and I wanted to share some of the profound concepts and ideas that I discovered in my research (how did we ever manage pre-Internet)? The

website www.spiritualpartnering.com considers the manner in which we live our lives, such as the phenomenon of our participation in the unfolding of our lives unconsciously (as a victim of seemingly random circumstances) or consciously (as an active, co-creative participant). It offers philosophy and tools, and I encourage you to explore it if you find this of interest. Here is a sample:

Key Points for Creating from the Inside-Out

Elyse Hope Killoran, Personal Coach

- Your outer manifestations always mirror what is going on inside you.
- When you change your inner programming the external results will change accordingly.
- If you don't have something you want, it is because you are not energetically (mind-body-soul) aligned with it.
- If you have something in your life that you don't want, it is because right now you are in energetic alignment with it.
- Whether you want something you do not have (or you have something that you do not want), when you learn to consciously shift your energy, you will attract totally different results.

- The laws of the universe are totally clear and absolutely consistent!
- To change your attraction: First, get clarity about what you want. Secondly, align your energy with it, and lastly, commit to receiving it and it will be yours.

- Simply knowing something on an intellectual level gives you very little power. When you take a truth and internalize it so that it becomes who-you-really-are on a cellular level, you will radiate that truth outward and your entire experience of life will be changed.

The fastest way to block your efforts to create the life you love is to get caught up in a negative energy spiral. Any action taken from a place of lack (fear, anxiety, poor self-esteem, separation/scarcity consciousness) will be motivated action (pushing fear/discomfort away) and will be counterproductive.

The fastest way to propel yourself towards the manifestation of your dreams is to learn the intricacies of the universal laws, consciously line up your energy with what you want, and take action (positive, flowing enthusiastic action) from a place of inspiration (pulling your good towards you) rather than motivation.

Let there be peace, and best wishes for a happy, healthy and inspirational New Year!

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

January marks the beginning of a new year for the members of **FRIENDS of the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission**. Watch your mailbox for your renewal invitation and don't forget to sign up **AGAIN**, bring a new Friend as well!

Friends of the Commission
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July 2003 Summer Issue



Located within the city's "Interline" web site system, the Women's Alliance (LLWA) directory offers a wide variety of information on individual clubs and organizations, including the contact information. If your organization or agency would like to post information free of charge or update its current information, an application can be obtained from the web site's index page (www.ci.lincoln.ne.us/city/mayor/women/llwa) or call 441-7716 and one will be snail-mailed to you.

If you are looking for a way to become actively involved in the community, make new friends or strengthen networks, look in the listings for great connections!

This community service is sponsored by Friends of LLWC and the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission.

Mission Statement



Working as a division of the Mayor's Office since 1976, the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission works to assure that the women of Lincoln & Lancaster County have full participation in the issues that have an impact on their lives. The Commission advises City and County officials of social, economic and legal barriers that prevent women from choosing their roles in the family, the labor force and society in general, and working toward the elimination of those barriers. With 15 volunteers and a paid staff of three, the Commission continues to engage in activities designed to heighten community awareness in the areas of self-sufficiency, health care, safety, education and act as a clearinghouse of information for women in need.

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Commission Quarterly Newsletter

The Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission (LLWC) is an Advisory Board created by elected officials to advise the Mayor, Lincoln City Council and Lancaster County Board on issues that impact women. Please address any correspondence to: Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission, 440 S. 8th St., Ste. 100, Lincoln NE 68508-2294 or call (402) 441-7717.

Editorial Policy:

The Commission Quarterly is a publication of Friends of the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission. Publishing costs are paid by Friends. Materials appearing in this publication shall be in accordance with the purposes, goals and official positions of the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission and Friends of the Women's Commission. The Commission Quarterly is published four times a year: January, April, July and October.

Criteria for Publication:

Submission by community groups and individuals are welcome. Deadlines are the first of the month preceding the month of publication. Articles are subject to editing, with the author's compliance. Specific opinions expressed are not necessarily the opinions held by LLWC employees, its Commissioners or Friends of the Women's Commission.

Advertising

Advertising is available in a business card sized ad and will be accepted as space is available on a first come, first serve basis. All ads should be camera ready and must be submitted one month before the publication date. For more information on advertising opportunities, call 441-7717.

Friends of the Commission

Friends of the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission is a 501 (c)(3) organization that solicits funds for the commission's projects.

LLWC Staff

Karen Wamsley, office specialist; Diane Mullins, public information specialist, and Bonnie Coffey, director.

Friends Executive Board

Karen Dienstbier, president; Roberta Stick, vice president; Georgia Glass, treasurer; Nan Schweiger, secretary, and Marcia Kushner, immediate past president.

CQ Committee

Bonnie Coffey and Diane Mullins.

LLWC Commissioners

Dr. Mary Beck, immediate past president; Holly Burns, vice-president; Bridget Christensen, member-at-large; Dr. Gwendolyn M. Combs, Helen Fagan, member-at-large; Jennifer Gutierrez, Nancy Intermill, president; Janet Lu, Maria Medrano-Nehls, Colleen Ozanne, Nicole Simon, Roberta Stick, and Kathleen Uhrmacher.



Business and the Working Woman

Government Web Site Devoted to Women-Owned Businesses

America's 9.1 million women-owned businesses employ 27.5 million people and contribute \$3.6 trillion to the economy - yet women continue to face unique obstacles in the world of business. The U.S. Small Business Administration is doing more than ever to help level the playing field for women entrepreneurs, and the SBA's Office of Women's Business Ownership is leading the way.

The administration maintains a web site devoted to women business owners located at: <http://www.onlinewbc.gov>. Meeting the growing diversity in women's ethnic business groups, the site is also offered in six major languages.

OWBO promotes the growth of women-

owned businesses through programs that address business training and technical assistance, and provide access to credit and capital, federal contracts, and international trade opportunities. With a women's business ownership representative in every SBA district office, a nationwide network of mentoring roundtables, women's business centers in nearly every state and territory, women-owned venture capital companies, and the Online Women's Business Center, OWBO is helping unprecedented numbers of women start and build successful businesses. At every stage of developing and expanding a successful business, the Office of Women's Business Ownership is here to counsel, teach, encourage and inspire.

The Women's Business Center in Nebraska is a program of the Center for Rural Affairs' Rural Enterprise Assistance Project (REAP).

REAP's Women's Business Center is the first and only SBA funded Women's Business

Center in the state of Nebraska. This nonprofit partnered agency is committed to strengthening rural communities through small, self-employed business development assistance. The project is a center without "walls", using REAP's infrastructure with business specialists located throughout the state to deliver the WBC services to rural small businesses. REAP's Women's Business Center will serve existing and start-up self-employed women across rural Nebraska, improve the accessibility of REAP's basic business training across Nebraska for women, provide Internet training for women in business on a regional basis, participate in an on-line Women's Business Center (OWBC) co-sponsored by SBA, increase REAP's outreach to provide training, technical assistance, networking and lending, targeting socially and economically disadvantaged women through our existing infrastructure.

Rural Enterprise Assistance Project

Glennis McClure, WBC Director
38400 US Hwy 77
SBA Nonprofit partner
Blue Springs, NE 68067-0406
First Year Funding: R-2001
Telephone: 402-645-3296
Fax: 402-645-3296
Email: reapwbc@diodecom.net
SBA Region: 7
Web site: www.cfra.org/reap
Population: Rural
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You're Invited!

to an
International Women's Day
Celebration

You're cordially invited
to attend the
Lincoln-Lancaster
Women's Commission
28th annual awards luncheon,

Friday, March 5, 2004
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
The Cornhusker Hotel
333 S. 13th St., Lincoln, NE

Mark Your Calendars!
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Weaving Women's Voices

Honoring four outstanding
individuals and celebrating
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Commission Quarterly

Women's advocates say that especially disadvantaged will be those older women who are single, divorced, separated and widowed, and who have dramatically less income because of pension inequities and uncompensated years out of the workforce caring for children or ill relatives and fewer savings due to systematic pay discrimination.

Opponents state that drug costs will continue to rise because the bill turns good public policy on its head by providing more benefits for wealthier seniors, fewer benefits to low income seniors and a potential dismantling of traditional Medicare that will be serving poorer, sicker seniors and disabled persons. Most egregiously, the bill does not address the core problem of skyrocketing drug costs where U.S. residents pay 200-400% and more for prescription drugs than do patients in other countries. The new law will exacerbate the problem by prohibiting

The whole subject of competition is a complicated one. If your definition of competitive people is those who try hard to do their very best, then most MBAs would fit that definition—both men and women. Most people who go for an MBA do so because they want to achieve and be successful. And won't it be great to go to school with people who care about how they perform?

That being said, there are schools where the environment is more collaborative than at others. The best way to find out about the culture of a school you are considering is to talk to students and alumni, particularly females.

Myth: I won't get into business school if I have a nonbusiness background.

Fact: MBAs come from every kind of background, including liberal arts, science, law, social sciences, and education.

Women enroll in MBA programs for a broad variety of reasons, and each class is different. Most schools publish statistics about the class they just admitted. These statistics reveal a wide range of academic and professional backgrounds among admitted students. Actually, students from nonbusiness backgrounds can bring very valuable approaches and experiences to their MBA classes and be very attractive to employers as MBA graduates. Schools look for diversity in their admitted classes, and part of the diversity they look for is in undergraduate backgrounds.

the government from using its bulk buying power to negotiate lower prices and it prevents re-importation of safe drugs from Canada. Even the modest drug discount card issued to low-income Medicare beneficiaries beginning in 2004 will have less and less buying power as drug prices increase. The House provision to make fee-for-service Medicare compete with private Medicare HMOs was eliminated. In its place is a demonstration project that can

MBA, continued from front page

Most MBA programs have a core curriculum that is designed to teach business fundamentals such as accounting, marketing, finance, organization behavior, and the like. It doesn't really matter what you studied at the undergraduate level—you will get the basics from the core courses. After you complete the core courses, electives will let you focus on your areas of interest.

Myth: MBA career tracks seem highly defined and demanding. If I get a job that requires an MBA, I won't be able to balance my job with my life.

Fact: Getting an MBA increases your career flexibility.

Some MBAs enter large organizations with highly structured career tracks and long work weeks. But for every MBA who chooses that path, there is another who does something completely different. Many people are motivated to seek an MBA to increase their career options and flexibility. The MBA can be of particular interest to women who might be considering how to balance a career and children. An admissions director at a well-known school uses a transportation analogy to describe the freedom an MBA can give you, likening it to driving a car.

Getting an MBA gives you more options. It is the difference between taking the train and driving a car. With the train, someone else decides the schedule and drives. But with the car, you get to decide where to go, when to stop, and how fast you want to go.

Bill Lacks Good Medicine, Continued from page 2

operate in very limited circumstances. It is unlikely that any of the three metropolitan areas in Nebraska will meet the strict

qualifications for a demonstration project states AARP officials. Section 631 of the Senate bill, which would have enabled employers to engage in age discrimination against

persons over the age of 65 when offering retiree health benefits, was eliminated. The House bill's failure to offer federally-sponsored fallback drug coverage in areas in which no private insurers materialize was corrected. In the final version of the bill, a federal fallback plan will be offered in regions in which there are not at least two other options, one of which has to be a prescription drugs-only plan. For more information or to speak your voice, contact your elected representatives.

Contact Information

U.S. Senate
Hon. Charles T. Hagel
294 Federal Building
100 Centennial Mall North
Lincoln NE 68508
402 476-1400

Hon. Ben Nelson
287 Federal Building
100 Centennial Mall North
Lincoln NE 68508
402 441-4600

U. S. Congress
House of Representatives
Hon. Douglas Bereuter
301 S. 13th St., Suite 100
Lincoln NE 68508
402 438-1598

State of Nebraska
Clerk of the Legislature
402 471-2271
**Ask to speak to your district representative.*

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